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Carmarthen Urban Sanitary Authority

70th Annual Report

OF THE

Sanitary Conditions of the County of
the Borough of Carmarthen

BY

ELFYN T. JONES

B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

CARMARTHEN.

Printed by . Spurrell & Son, King Street

1943.


COUNTY OF THE BOROUGH OF CARMARTHEN.



*With the Compliments
of
The Medical Officer of Health*

Dr. ELFYN T. JONES.

*15, Spilman Street,
Carmarthen.*



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer :

Elfyn T. Jones, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Clerk to the County of the Borough of Carmarthen :

Howard B. White, Esq.

Borough Engineer and Surveyor :

G. L. Ovens, Esq.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

J. J. Healy, M.B., B.Ch., F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon :

C. P. Robinson, F.R.C.S. (Edin.).

School Dental Surgeon :

Gwilym Evans, L.D.S., R.C.S. (Eng.).

Obstetrical Consultant :

Dr. Lloyd Davies, M.D., F.R.C.S.

Sanitary Inspector :

E. W. Francis, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Shops Inspector :

James Evans, C.R.S.I.

Veterinary Surgeon :

T. R. Thomas, M.R.C.V.S.

Food and Drugs Inspector :

D. Roderick, Chief Inspector.

Health Visitor and School Nurse :

Octavia Davies, C.M.B.

Dental Nurse and L.C.C. School Nurse :

M. F. Phillips, S.R.N., C.M.B.

Clerks to the Medical Officer of Health :

G. Griffiths.

W. Evans.

P R E F A C E .

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Members of the Council of the
Borough of Carmarthen.

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending
December 31st, 1942, which is in the form suggested by Circular
2773 (Wales).

I wish to gratefully acknowledge the way in which all
members of my Staff have maintained their efforts in keeping
abreast of the additional duties continually placed upon the Public
Health Department.

I wish to thank my colleagues and their Staffs for their
continued co-operation and help.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ELFYN T. JONES,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Carmarthen Urban District Authority is comprised of the Parish of St. Peter's and is 5,160 acres in extent. The area is largely rural and is undeveloped.

The rateable value of the Borough is £61,764, and the sum represented by a penny rate is £250.

Vital Statistics.

			Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	{	Legitimate ...	162	86	76	
		Illegitimate ...	14	7	7	
						Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births.
Still Births		... ..	9	4	5	48.6
Deaths	...	... ..	148	77	71	

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births).
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.00
Other Puerperal Causes ...	1	5.4
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1	5.4

Death Rate of Infants under One Year of Age.

All infants per 1,000 live births—62.5.

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births—67.9.

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—0.00.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—24.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) —1.

Deaths in the Borough.

The number of deaths registered in the Borough during the year is 77 males, 71 females.

These figures are altered by inward and outward transfers, Thus:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths registered in the area ...	136	132	268
Outward transfers ...	60	65	125
Non-civilian deaths ...	4	0	4
Inward transfers ...	5	4	9
	77	71	148

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

The assistance given to the Public Health Department by the Emergency Public Health Laboratory Service, Penlan Road, Carmarthen, attained the high standard of former years and its value as a factor in the maintenance of the public health is inestimable. I wish to place on record my appreciation of the active and willing co-operation of Doctors Fry and Boissard.

Clinic (Maternity and Child Welfare and Education Committees).

The Clinic in Pond Street has continued to be widely used throughout the year.

Clinics are held as follows:—

- (a) Child Welfare Clinic—Mondays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
- (b) Ante-Natal Clinic—Thursdays, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon.
- (c) Minor Ailment Clinic—Five times a week; School Medical Officer in attendance every Tuesday morning.
- (d) Dental Clinic—Tuesdays, 2.30 p.m.; Fridays, 10.30 a.m., and 2.30 p.m.
- (e) Ultra Violet Light Clinic—Monday and Thursday mornings, as required.

Attendances—Welfare Centre.

No. on register at the end of 1942—181.

No. of new cases under 1 year of age—109.

No. of new cases over 1 year of age—13.

No. of attendances by children under 1 year of age—1,193.

No. of attendances by children between 1 and 5 years of age—211.

Total number of attendances made—1,404.

Average attendance per session—29.12.

No. of attendances by Evacuees (M/CW)—212.

Maternity Service.

The Ante-Natal Clinic held every Thursday morning was well attended. The number of expectant mothers who attended the Clinic being 61.

Number of cases admitted to Borough Beds in the County Infirmary—55.

Three evacuated expectant mothers were admitted to the Amman Valley Cottage Hospital, Glanamman, during the year.

The facilities available for the provision of Maternity Beds and the services of an Obstetric Consultant were the same as in the previous year.

Nursery School.

A Nursery School was opened on September 9th, 1941. It is situated at the English Congregational Chapel Schoolroom, Lammas Street. The average number of children attending the School is 16, though there are 30 on the Register. The children's ages vary from two to five years. The Medical Officer of the School is Dr. Bryson, and regular periodical inspections are carried out. All the children attending the School have been immunised.

Water Supplies.

Careful watch was maintained over the water supplies in the Borough, samples being taken for bacteriological examination at regular intervals. The continuation of chlorination to ensure safety of the water was found to be necessary.

SAMPLES OF WATER TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Date.	Source.	Type of Examination.	Result.
28/1/42	Tap Water, 47 St. David's Avenue	Bacteriological	Fairly good.
28/1/42	Tap Water, Sanitar Inspector's Office, John Street.	do.	Excellent.
20/2/42	Tap Water, Sanitary Inspector's Office, John Street.	do.	Local source of con- tamination.
20/2/42	Tap Water, The Clinic, Pond Street,	do.	Excellent.
12/3/42	(Chlorinated). Chlorinated Water—Rydal Mount,	do.	Excellent.
12/3/42	Johnstown.		
12/3/42	Chlorinated Water—Milford Arms,	do.	Excellent.
12/3/42	Lammas Street.		
12/3/42	Chlorinated Water—Sanitary Inspector's Office, John Street.	do.	Excellent.
12/3/42	Chlorinated Water—34 Llanstephan Rd.	do.	Unsatisfactory for Chlorinated water.
12/5/42	Water from Lower Cwmoernant Reservoir	Bacteriological	Fairly satisfactory.
12/5/42	Water from Upper Cwmoernant Reservoir	plus copper content	
12/6/42	Water from tap at Morfa Farm, Johnstown	do.	Fairy satisfactory.
12/6/42	Water from tap at Johnstown School	Bacteriological	Chlorination inadequate.
8/12/42	Tap Water, 47 St. David's Avenue	do.	Chlorination inadequate.
8/12/42	Tap Water, Sanitary Inspector's Office, John Street.	do.	Chlorination quite inadequate.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

As compared with the previous year there was a decided fall in the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, and particularly so is this noticeable with regard to Diphtheria. In 1941 there were 46 cases of Diphtheria with 4 deaths, whereas in 1942 there were 7 cases of Diphtheria with no deaths. These figures amply justify the value of immunisation methods.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1942.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.		Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
	Borough	Evacs.		
Diphtheria ...	6	1	7	0
Scarlet Fever ...	8	1	4	0
Enteric Fever ...	1	0	1	0
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0	0
Smallpox... ...	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	5	0	5	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	32	0	32	0
Measles	6	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	9	0	0	0

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation against Diphtheria is being carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the Clinic, Pond Street, on Tuesday mornings at 11 a.m.

The number of children immunised at the Clinic during the year being as follows:—

Children 0—5 years—129.

Children 5—15 years— 86.

On December 31st, 1942, the state of immunisation in the Borough was as follows:—

Children aged 5—15 years.

Number immunised during the year was 86, making a total of 1,366 children immunised, i.e. 86.4%.

Maternity and Child Welfare Children.

Number immunised during the year was 129, making a total of 455, i.e. 64.2% of the M/CW Child population.

Tuberculosis.

Number of new cases on register during the year 1942 was 20. (6 males, 14 females).

Number of deaths during the year was 11 (5 males, 6 females).

New Cases of, and Mortality from, Tuberculosis.

Age Period in years.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1—5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5—15	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
15—25	2	3	0	0	1	1	0	0
25—35	1	5	0	0	1	2	1	0
35—45	1	3	0	0	0	2	1	0
45—55	1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
55—65	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	6	13	0	1	3	6	2	0

Rates per 1,000 Population of Notifications and Deaths.

Year.	Notifications (New Cases).	Deaths.
1937	1.55	0.73
1938	1.5	0.27
1939	1.8	0.63
1940	1.96	0.76
1941	1.5	1.1
1942	1.6	0.91

The County Council have now completed their scheme for altercare of Tuberculous patients, and this together with the new scheme of the Government should go a long way to ameliorate the circumstances of these cases.

Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938.

- (a) No. of Tuberculin-Tested Licences in force in Borough—1.
- (b) No. of Accredited Licence holders in Borough—24.
- (c) No. of Tuberculin-Tested Milk Samples taken—26.
- (d) No. of Accredited Milk Samples taken—83.

Samples of Milk taken—21.

No. reported as satisfactory—13.

No. reported as unsatisfactory—7 and 1 doubtful.

Of the 21 samples taken by Mr. Francis, the Sanitary Inspector, 15 were analysed at Aberystwyth under the Joint Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme.

The 26 Tuberculin-Tested Milk and 83 Accredited Milk samples taken by Mr. D. Roderick, Chief Inspector, County Council, were taken from a few producers who were reported to be producing sub-standard milk when tested under the National Milk Sampling Scheme.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Mr. D. Roderick, Chief Inspector, County Council, reports as follows on the work done under the above Act in the area of the Carmarthen Urban District Council during the year:—

33 samples of milk and 14 samples of miscellaneous articles of food were taken and sent to the Public Analyst for analysis.

One sample of milk was certified to be 36% deficient in milk fat and proceedings were taken against the Vendor, and a fine of five shillings was imposed. Three samples of milk were slightly deficient in milk fat and the the Vendors were warned.

The remaining 29 samples of milk and the 14 samples of miscellaneous articles were certified to be genuine.

26 samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk samples were taken and sent for bacteriological examination. 16 of these were reported to be unsatisfactory.

83 samples of Accredited Milk samples were taken and sent for bacteriological examination. 47 of these were reported to be unsatisfactory.

Meat.

Throughout the year the abattoir in Carmarthen was used as the central place for the slaughtering of cattle. Mr. Francis, the Sanitary Inspector, has, with the occasional assistance of the Sanitary Inspectors of the Rural District, carried out the inspection of carcasses slaughtered there.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Including Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed if known ... 878	2070	9140	279	
Number Inspected ... 878	2070	9140	279	
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.				
Whole carcasses condemned ... 12	14	13	1	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... 120	24	226	10	
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than T.B. ... 15%	1.35%	2.5%	0.4%	
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.				
Whole carcasses condemned ... 7	—	—	—	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... 5	—	—	1	
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with T.B. ... 1.36%	—	—	0.35%	

Disinfection.

Number of times steam disinfectors used ... 66

Number of Premises disinfected ... 25

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

GENERAL SANITATION.

Nature of Visit or Inspection.							No. of Visits.
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tents, Vans, Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Workshops	}	...	...	...	...	...	40
Workplaces		...	...	...	...	...
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	80

HOUSING.

Nature of Visit or Inspection.							No. of Visits.
Under Public Health Acts.							
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	165
Under Housing Acts.							
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Overcrowding.							
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	110
Vermineous Premises.							
Number of houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Visits paid to above houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	15

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	...	25
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	...	2
Number of rooms disinfected	...	...	...	25
Number of times steam disinfectors used	...	...	...	66

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Inspection of Meat and Meat Shops.

No. of Slaughterhouses in area ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of Slaughterhouses visited ...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of visits made to above Slaughterhouses ...	...	...	...	...	401
No. of visits to Shops and Stalls ...	...	...	...	...	294
No. of visits to butchers ...	...	...	...	...	1,470

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of producers in area ...	...	...	...	...	73
No. of retail purveyors in area ...	...	...	...	...	26
No. of visits to cowsheds ...	...	...	...	...	41
No. of new cowsheds provided ...	...	...	...	...	2
No. of cowsheds reconditioned ...	...	...	...	...	4

NOTICES SERVED.

Under the Housing Acts.

No. of informal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of informal notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of formal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of formal notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	Nil

Under the Public Health Acts.

No. of informal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	33
No. of informal notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	33
No. of formal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	9
No. of formal notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	9

Under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

No. of informal notices served ...	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of informal notices complied with ...	...	...	...	...	Nil

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	...	387
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ...	...	387
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated) Regulations, 1925 ...	...	162
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	...	162
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	...	160

(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	33
--	----

2. Remedy of defects during the year without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	62
--	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

A.—*Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners	Nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

B.—*Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	33
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) by owners	9
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	Nil

C.—*Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

D.—*Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit ...	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—OVERCROWDING.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	72
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	73
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	402
(b) (i) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	2

